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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/834,020	04/12/2001	Yoshiyuki Takaku	SONYJP 3.0-155	5274
7590 09/21/2004 LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG, KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP 600 SOUTH AVENUE WEST WESTFIELD, NJ 07090-1497			EXAMINER CHANG, SUNRAY	
			ART UNIT 2121	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 09/21/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/834,020

Applicant(s)

TAKAKU ET AL.

Examiner

Sunray Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 April 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 28 are presented for examination.

Claims 1 – 28 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. **Claims 1 – 28 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Makoto Matsumaru et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,594,239, and referred to as Matsumaru hereinafter).

3. **Regarding independent claims 1, 6, 12, 16, and 23**, Matsumaru teaches,

- An information processing system [transmission managing apparatus, Col. 1, Line 9 – 10] transmitting information [transmitting information, Col. 1, Line 12] among an information sending apparatus [DVC, Fig. 2A], an information processing apparatus [PC, Fig. 2A] and an information receiving apparatus [VT, Fig. 2A] all connected to an information transmitting system [B; serial bus, Fig. 2A] having a plurality of transmission channels [each channel, Col. 12, Line 1 – 3];

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- Including a first transmission channel [serial bus, Col. 8, Line 33] operable to send information [sending and receiving information, Col. 8, Line 34] from information sending apparatus [electrical product, Col. 8, Line 33] to information processing apparatus; [information processors, Col. 8, Line 32]
- An input unit [packet receiver, Fig. 12] connected to information transmitting system [serial bus, Fig. 12];
- An output unit [packet transmitter, Fig. 12] connected to information transmitting system [serial bus, Fig. 12];
- An information supply unit [memory, Col. 10, Line 46 – 47] operable to supply information from input unit to output unit [storing current used on the bus, Col. 10, Line 48 – 49];
- Means for establishing a second transmission channel [new empty channel, Col. 11, Line 38 – 40] in information transmitting system [serial bus, Fig. 2A] between information processing apparatus [PC, Fig. 2A] and information receiving apparatus [VT, Fig. 2A]; and
- Means for transmitting information [transmitting information, Col. 1, Line 12] from information processing apparatus [PC, Fig. 2A] to information receiving apparatus [VT, Fig. 2A] via second transmission channel [B, serial bus, Fig. 2A, and [new empty channel, Col. 11, Line 38 – 40].

4. **Regarding dependent claims 2, 7, 17, and 24,**

- Information transmitting system includes an IEEE1394 serial bus interface. [Col. 8, Line 20 – 22]

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5. Regarding dependent claims 3 and 18,

- Means for establishing second transmission channel [start the transmission after inquiring of the IRM node a communication state on the serial bus, Col. 3, Line 6 – 7] acquires a band [usage band, Col. 2, Line 63] and a transmission channel [channel, Col. 3, Line 8] required for transmitting information [transmission, Col. 3, Line 6] from information transmitting system serial bus, Col. 2, Line 64 – 65].

6. Regarding dependent claims 4, 8, 13, 20, and 26,

- Input unit comprises a logical input plug [packet receiver, Fig. 12] and
- Output unit comprises a logical output plug [packet transmitter, Fig. 12], and
- Information supplying unit [memory, register, Fig. 2A] connects logical input plug [packet receiver, Fig. 12] with logical output plug [packet transmitter, Fig. 12].

7. Regarding dependent claims 5 and 9,

- Logical input plug [packet receiver, Fig. 12] and logical output plug [packet transmitter, Fig. 12] each include a register [memory, register, Fig. 12].

8. Regarding dependent claims 10, 14, 22, and 28,

- A channel selection unit [transmission controller, Col. 17, Line 1] operable to select a desired transmission channel from transmission channels [a channel and a transmission occupation period desired by a node transmitting the information, Col. 17, Line 6 – 8], and to receive

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information [information transmission is started, Col. 17, Line 12] via desired transmission channel desired by a node transmitting the information, Col. 17, Line 7 – 8].

9. **Regarding dependent claims 11, 15, 21, and 27,**

- Information supply unit [transmission controller, Col. 10, Line 52] is operable to adjust [increase/decrease] a transmission rate of information [transmission occupation period] input from input unit [newly used/newly empty channel] and to supply information [newly empty channel/newly used] with adjusted transmission rate [transmission occupation period] to output unit.

10. **Regarding dependent claims 19 and 25,**

- Inputting [receive] information via an input unit [packet receiver, Fig. 12] connected to information transmitting system [serial bus, Fig. 12];
- Supplying [transmitting] information from input unit to an output unit [packet transmitter and resource register, Fig. 12] connected to information transmitting system [serial bus, Fig. 12].

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Osakabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,933,430) discloses IEEE-1394, converter, a first interface, a second interface, a control signal, and a sampling frequency. Kato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,397,277) discloses transmitting data among devices connected to a serial data bus.

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12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sunray Chang whose telephone number is 703-305-8744 or after October 12, 2004 at (571) 272-3682. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached on (703)308-3179 or after October 12, 2004 at (571) 272-3687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-746-3506.

Sunray Chang
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2121
Technology Center 2100
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

September 17, 2004



Anthony Knight
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600